

**Claims Listing** – for Braunstein et al.U.S. Serial No. 10/662,643

1. (currently amended) A pour spout to assist in pouring a liquid from a container including a body having a top opening circumscribed by a rim channel for holding a lid covering said top opening, an inner rim inward of said rim channel, and an outer rim outward of said rim channel, said pour spout comprising:

a generally horizontally extending channel cover for covering said rim channel after a lid covering said top opening is removed from said rim channel, thereby to prevent liquid from dripping into said rim channel after said liquid is removed from said container,

a locking flange extending downward of said channel cover, said locking flange being adapted to extend downwardly adjacent said inner rim interiorly thereof,

an outer flange extending downwardly of said channel cover, said outer flange being adapted to extend exteriorly of said outer rim, and

a liquid control trough extending generally vertically and upwardly of said channel cover.

2. (original) The pour spout of claim 1, comprising a flexible and resilient plastic material.

3. (original) The pour spout of claim 2, wherein said flexible and resilient plastic material comprises polypropylene.

4. (original) The pour spout of claim 1, wherein said top opening comprises an annular opening and said channel cover circumscribes said annular opening.

5. (original) The pour spout of claim 1, wherein said outer flange is tapered to a reduced thickness at a free end spaced from said channel cover.

6. (original) The pour spout of claim 1, wherein said locking flange comprises a curved inner rim lock for snapping into engagement with said inner rim.

7. (original) The pour spout of claim 1, wherein said outer flange further comprises an upper flange extending upwardly of said channel cover.

8. (original) The pour spout of claim 7, wherein said upper flange is tapered to a reduced thickness at a free end spaced from said channel cover.

9. (currently amended) The pour spout of claim 1, wherein said liquid control trough comprises a generally vertical convex exterior surface.

10. (currently amended) The pour spout of claim 9, wherein said pour spout further comprises a drip lip extending exteriorly ~~thereof~~ of said generally vertical convex exterior surface, said drip lip preventing liquid poured from said container from being transferred onto said convex exterior surface.

11. (original) The pour spout of claim 9, wherein said convex exterior surface displays graphic matter.

12. (currently amended) The pour spout of claim 1 wherein, when said pour spout is inverted over said top opening, said upper flange and said liquid control trough extend downwardly of said outer rim adjacent to an exterior of said container body.

13. (original) The pour spout of claim 1, wherein when said pour spout is inverted over said top opening, said outer flange extends upwardly of said outer rim, thereby enabling a second container to be stacked above said container.

14. (currently amended) The pour spout of claim 1, wherein said pour spout further comprises a stacking spacer adjacent said outer flange and having ~~increased~~ greater thickness than said channel cover, said stacking spacer evenly distributing weight of a second container stacked over said container.

15. (currently amended) The pour spout of claim 1, further comprising a pull tab comprising a web extending radially inward of said channel cover, opposite said liquid control trough.

16. (original) The pour spout of claim 15, further comprising a curved brush wipe extending inwardly of said channel cover, said brush wipe being located at a position along said channel cover not occupied by said pour trough or said pull tab.

17. (currently amended) A carrier for a plurality of cylindrical ~~carriers~~ containers, said carrier comprising a plurality of pour spouts in accordance with claim 1, each said pour spouts being attached to at least one adjacent pour spout by a connector integrally formed therewith.

18. (original) A carrier in accordance with claim 17, wherein each said connector is sufficiently thin to facilitate separation of said pour spouts via a knife, scissors, or tearing.

19. (original) A carrier in accordance with claim 17, further comprising a stir paddle integrally formed with said pour spouts.

20. (original) A carrier in accordance with claim 19, wherein said pour spout includes a shaft and a plurality of blades extending radially outwardly of said shaft, said shaft being suitable for connection with an electric drill in order to mix paint or other liquid.

**Amended Paragraph 35 –for Braunstein et al. U.S. Serial No. 10/662,943**

[0035] Referring now to the drawings, in which like numerals indicate like elements throughout several views. FIG. 1 depicts a pour spout 10 and its relationship to a paint container 12 onto which it will engage. FIG. 2 and FIG. 3 depict the present invention in the pour position. The pour spout 10 of the preferred embodiment is comprised of polypropylene, though other types of flexible and resilient plastic or rubber based materials are also suitable. The pour spout 10 consists of a circular channel cover 14, a pour trough 20 and a control trough 32 30. The circular channel cover 14 consists of three horizontal surfaces: the rim channel protector 24, the stacking spacer 40 and the brush wipe 36. The pour spout 10 is removed from the paint container 12 by pulling up on the pull-tab 38. This will disengage the circular channel cover 14 closest to the pull-tab 38. As the pull-tab 38 is pulled further, the circular channel cover 14 continues to disengage until the pour spout 10 is completely removed. When the pour spout 10 is installed in the pour position as shown in FIG. 4 and FIG. 5, the rim channel protector 24 and stacking spacer 40 seal off the rim channel 54 and eliminate the possibility of paint from entering. The brush wipe 36 is a horizontal extension of the rim channel protector 24 but is present only in two places around the inner circumference of the pour spout 10. The two brush wipes 36 are separated by the pull-tab 38 and cover approximately 90 degrees around the inner circumference of the pour spout 10. The brush wipes 36 extend inward toward the center of the circle and provide a stiff edge on which to remove excess paint from a brush.